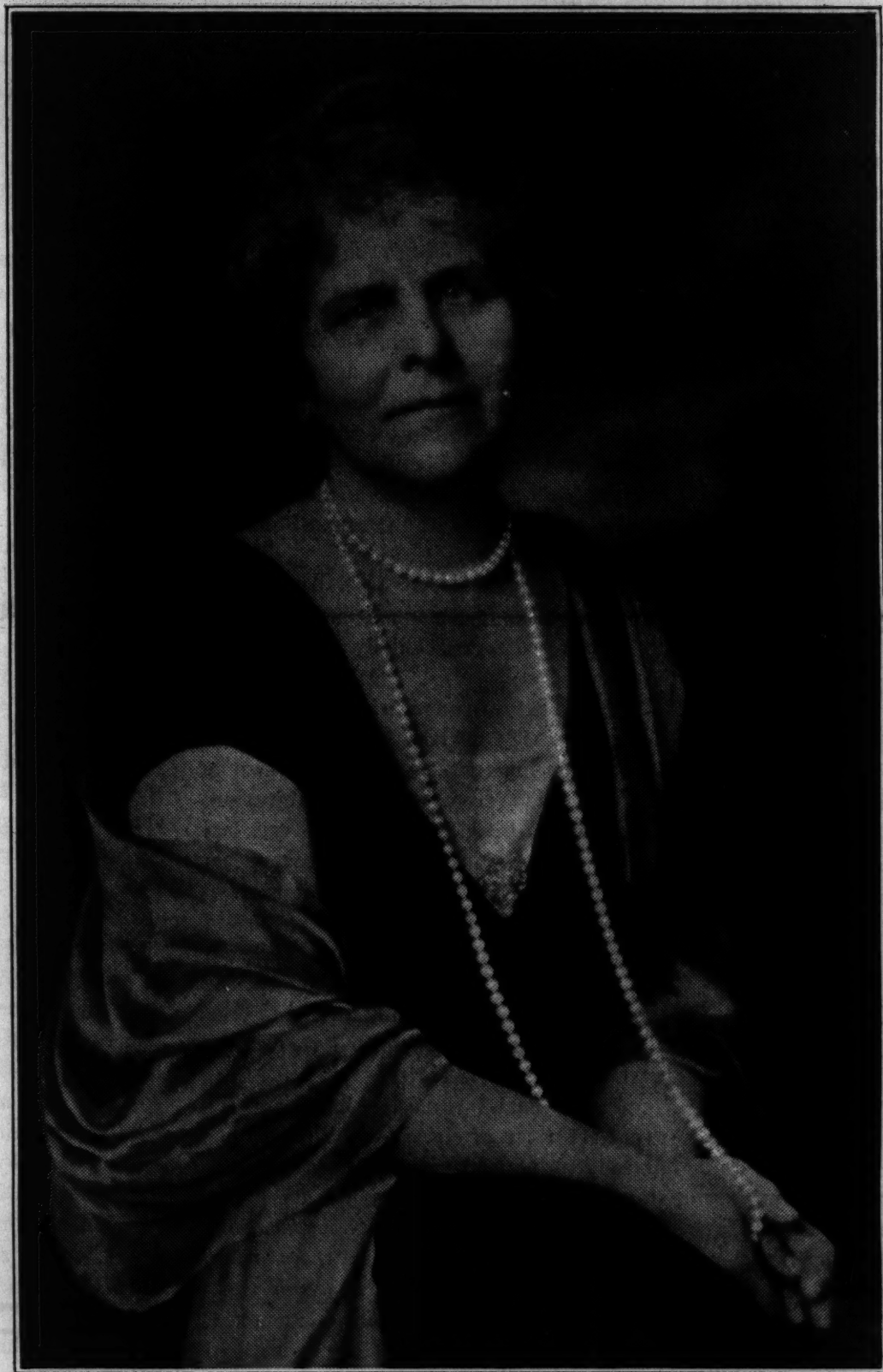


Equal Rights

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SATURDAY,
MAY 19, 1928



Florence Brooks Whitehouse

President of the Maine Branch of the National Woman's Party. Mrs. Whitehouse, together with Gail Laughlin and other Feminist leaders, has recently been conducting an intensive campaign in the State of Maine in behalf of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Feminist Notes

Equal Franchise Bill Passes House

THE bill granting the vote to women of England on equal terms with men was passed by the House of Commons on May 7 without a record vote. The bill met a delay in the House of Lords when it came up for a second reading, but is expected to be passed during this session and signed by King George. It is estimated that this bill will give British women a political majority of 2,000,000 over men if they turn out in full force at the next general elections.

Girls' Gymnastics in Italy

THE latest quarrel between the Pope and Premier Mussolini, according to press dispatches from Italy, is over the question of gymnastic competitions for girls.

In an open letter to Cardinal Pompili, vicar of Rome, Pope Pius said:

"The Bishop of Rome cannot, in fact, fail to deplore that here in the Holy City of Catholicism, after twenty centuries of Christianity, the sensitiveness and attention to delicate care due to young women and girls should be shown to have fallen lower than pagan Rome."

The Pope criticized public performances by young female athletes, declaring that the methods of physical culture now pursued in Italy are contrary to "good sane pedagogy."

The Vatican organ, *Osservatore Romano*, took up the battle, protesting especially against the training of girls in marksmanship, and against the assembling of girls in short athletic costumes.

Promptly the Fascist papers published ironical comments on the Pope's attitude toward physical training of girls.

Egypt Formulates Equal Code

THE press reports that the trade union movement in Egypt, recently united in a National Federation of Labor, has formulated an industrial code which is equal in its application to men and women. It provides for an eight-hour day for ordinary work and a six-hour day for especially hard work, double pay for overtime; prohibition of night work and hard work for children and old persons; insurance against sickness, accidents, invalidity, and old age; medical supervision in factories; and compulsory elementary education. The Egyptian Government is said to have approved the code.

It will be noticed that a new classification—"children and old persons"—has taken the place in this code of the familiar and highly objectionable "women and children."

Trying to Bar Women Again

FEMINIST leaders and women temperance workers in England have gone to war over the barmaid, according to a *United Press* London dispatch.

The temperance council of Christian churches took the offensive by pledging itself to abolish barmaids as an institution. Serving drinks across public house bars, it was held, was degrading to women and girls.

Feminists retorted that women customers in "pubs" might be degraded by men bartenders; that women could do the work as well as men, and that presence of girls behind bars gave tone to a "pub" and helped to restrain over-merry drinkers.

Besides, the barmaids probably want to earn a living.

Turkish Women Going Into Politics

PROSPECTS for participation by Turkish women in politics are fairly bright, in the opinion of Alwine Wellmann, a German Socialist recently returned from a sojourn in the Turkish Republic, as expressed in a German Feminist paper:

"Among women the beginnings of a general political movement are stirring. It is being directed chiefly by educated women.

"The great advance which the President of the Turkish Republic, Kemal Pasha, has brought to Turkish women is the liberation from external subjection. Polygamy is prohibited and the veil has fallen. A woman, like a man, may go about freely and devote her interest to public matters. In the provinces the old traditions are still very strong, while on the other hand the women of Angora, the present seat of government, and Constantinople have emancipated themselves with astonishing rapidity.

"Kemal Pasha thus far has been the great reformer of customs. Women have already on several occasions sent deputations to him with a request for the political franchise. During the preparations for the elections last summer the workers for the first time put forward two of their colleagues from the factory. I learned, upon my departure, that they were still awaiting endorsement by Kemal Pasha.

"In Turkey, too, as a result of the shifting in world economy, the labor question will become more and more pressing. With the advance of the working class, women also will obtain more freedom. To judge from the progress of Turkey within recent times, the date of this certainly should not be far off."

Jury Service Bill Upheld

JUSTICE CHARLES H. ROBB of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals upheld by inference the District of Columbia law opening jury service to women on an optional basis.

In ruling on the appeal of Malcomb Howard, who was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to death by a jury on which women sat, Justice Robb refused to rule specifically on the contention of the condemned man's counsel that the presence of women on the jury made it illegal, since the question was not raised until after his conviction. He touched upon it, however, quoting decisions in Iowa, Nevada, and Oregon, and saying:

"It is claimed that by allowing women summoned to serve upon the panel to decline such service, making it thereby optional with the person served to attend or not, the enactment destroys the compulsory nature of jury duty, and in some way not clearly explained by counsel deprives a party of a fair and impartial trial. The right of a defendant is to have a fair and impartial trial, and if the statute gives him this, he has no reason to complain if it permits women to excuse themselves from service. From their physical constitution, as well as from the nature of their duties and occupations, women have many reasons for not wishing to serve or being required to serve upon juries which do not apply to male jurors, and some of these reasons are such as a delicate woman would hesitate to specify in court or even to a judge."

Woman Appointed to Customs Court

GENEVIEVE R. CLINE was nominated for membership in the United States Customs Court by President Coolidge on May 4. The Senate is expected to confirm her nomination. Miss Cline is now an appraiser of customs. The vacancy was caused by the retirement of W. C. Adamson of Georgia, who has reached the age limit. There were many men candidates for the appointment. Miss Cline is from Cleveland, Ohio.

Women to Run Brokerage

THE New York Stock Exchange firm of Harris, Irby and Vose has placed its branch office at 1 East Fifty-third street at the exclusive service of women customers. The staff is composed entirely of women. Men customers are not invited. This is the first office, so far as is known, to be operated by a stock exchange firm solely for women and by women.

Why Feminism Lives

By Vera Brittain

THE Feminist movement of the present day is not very popular. It has a good many openly-declared enemies, all of whom appear determined to misunderstand its true aims and meaning, and to misrepresent its personnel. The opposition to it chiefly finds expression in the contemptuous indifference of women undergraduates at Universities, in the complacent lethargy of the mass of unoccupied or semi-occupied middle-class married women, and in the open hostility of certain sections of the press.

The press opposition is, of course, the most vocal, and may be said to represent the sentiments of the other two sections of opinion. Part of it is gently patronizing, lightly chaffing those women who share in Feminist activities, and jocosely suggesting that their enthusiasm is just a bit behind the times. Another part, turning a conveniently blind eye on the charm and elegance of the average modern Feminist, delights to publish little contemptuous phrases about "masculine women" and "virulent wives."

Yet a third part—and this to the women's movement of today is the most dangerous part of all—maintains that feminism is merely hysterical, since it is now quite unnecessary. Feminists are told, in the words of a weekly paper, that "all the strongholds of the enemy have been taken, all the big battles fought and won. Nowadays there is nothing left for the fighting Feminist but to magnify minor grievances * * * into some semblance of the grand old causes."

To rational women with occupations, who have certainly no time to waste on "minor grievances," but who still take part in the Feminist movement, it seems strange that any intelligent journalist should look upon the vote, which has never been other than symbolic, as in itself a "grand old cause," and at the same time so completely disregard the still unfulfilled endeavors and aspirations that lie behind it. The vote, both before it was gained and after, were merely the symbol of Equal Rights and opportunities for men and women in all departments of life, it gave women for the first time the means of asking for what they wanted, but it did not thereby fulfill those demands. Feminism still lives in England today, because the incompleteness of the English franchise represents but one symbol among many others of the incomplete recognition of women as human beings.

It is now generally agreed that the work of a human being is something dignified, something which deserves adequate remuneration and conditions that promote the utmost efficiency. On this principle a whole political party, which certainly would not describe its motives as

"minor grievances," has taken a firm stand, maintaining that anything which deprives a man of such remuneration and such conditions is a denial of his human rights. But this principle, now theoretically admitted in the case of men, is still far from acknowledgment in the case of women, who are frequently regarded as a class apart, vaguely sub-human, and not quite entitled to the same opportunities as men in education and in the professions.

Wanted—A Definition

A recent editorial in Collier's Magazine said:

She never "earned" any money. She lives on a farm. She is somebody's mother, maybe your own. She has earned no money. No, but in her thirty working years she has served 235,435 meals; she has made 3190 garments, 35,500 loaves of bread, 5,930 cakes, 7,960 pies, 1,500 gallons of lard; she has grown 1,525 bushels of vegetables and 1,550 quarts of fruits; she has raised 7,660 chickens, churned 5,460 pounds of butter, put up 3,625 jars of preserves, scrubbed 177,725 pieces of laundry, and has put in 35,640 hours sweeping, washing and scrubbing.

At accepted prices this work is worth \$115,485.50. She has no bank account to show for it. She can't retire on her savings; she has to keep on. Not earnings, no. How do you define the ordinary American woman's contribution to her family's wealth—and to the nation's wealth?

For the moment we may put aside the raging controversies in various occupations as to whether women really do equal work with men and are entitled to employment after marriage—questions which, incidentally, involve not "minor grievances," but such fundamental human problems as the possibility of marrying and the wisdom of having children. More specific examples than these exist of the general undervaluation of women's achievements. Not long ago, for instance, the Civil Service post of Draughtsman in the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty was advertised as "open to men and women." Only one post existed and the best applicant presumably would get it, yet if the chosen candidate chanced to be a woman she would receive a lower salary than a successful man.

Nor do these invidious distinctions op-

erate only at the beginning of a career. At present the majority of eminent women—such as our woman representatives at the League of Nations Assembly—go through life as substitute-delegates, vice-chairmen, sub-editors and assistant-secretaries; they are human beings with a hyphen, never quite complete.

This sense that the dignity of woman's work has never been wholly acknowledged inspires such remarks as that of Miss Margery Fry during the discussions on the Oxford Statute which limited the number of women undergraduates. "Women do their best work when they are allowed to do it, not as women, but as human beings." It is the urge behind woman's growing demand for employment unhandicapped by inadequate pay or unnecessary restrictions, and above all for work independent of such irrelevant considerations as whether she is married or whether her husband has an income. The right to separate her public and private affairs as every man is allowed to separate his is no "minor grievance," but the test of a fundamental distinction—the distinction between a social chattel and an independent, responsible individual.

Thus the issue behind the suffrage movement and behind the subsequent agitations over Equal Rights is, and always has been, the same. It is not so much a demand for the vote, which in itself might well be described as a "minor grievance" rather than as a "grand old cause," but a demand for a satisfactory answer to the fundamental question, "Should a woman be treated as a human being, and if not, why not?"

Woman herself, long conscious of complete humanity, today desires only that others shall recognize it and honestly accept the implications of such recognition. The fight for acknowledgment now bores rather than enthralls her; its postponement seems illogical, an anachronism, a waste of precious time. Her goal is the work of citizenship which awaits her as soon as she is allowed to play her full part in the making of civilization; she continues to agitate, often a little wearily, only because she desires to abolish the need for agitation.

The word Feminism—a much-maligned word, which has come to stand for many irrelevancies, such as dowdiness and physical abnormality—still adequately expresses her true desire, a desire that might well be summed up in one sentence addressed to mankind, "Recognise our full humanity, and we will trouble you no more."

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Dora G. Ogle Business Manager

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Mary Winsor

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 64.]

Introduced in the Senate, January 4, 1928,
by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.

The Pot and the Kettle

IT IS a very desirable thing for the members of the Woman's Party, from time to time, to read over the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and to compare the clean-cut, equalitarian principles embodied therein with conditions as they actually exist in the various States of the Union. It is to be remembered that the Constitution is the fundamental law of our land, and that where State laws are at variance with its provisions the State laws become automatically invalid. That is, theoretically, they should become invalid; in practical fact where women are concerned the Fourteenth Amendment seems not to operate at all.

Read the amendment again and then let your mind roam over the multitudinous instances where States have made and enforced laws which abridge the privileges and immunities of women citizens of the United States. Consider also the cavalier manner in which the American Federation of Labor, the Y. W. C. A., and many other organizations, endorse whole programs of legislation designed especially to deny female persons within the jurisdiction of the United States the equal protection of the laws.

Every particle of "welfare" legislation based on sex is in direct defiance of the Fourteenth Amendment, for it reads:

Article XIV, Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States, and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Thus the amendment reads, but what, we ask, does this phraseology signify for women?

Amid much hilarity on the part of the American press Canada has recently decided that under the law of 1867 women are not fit and qualified persons to sit in the Dominion Senate.

Alice Duer Miller's famous interrogation, "Are Women People?" has again come into the limelight in this connection, and well it may. Quite clearly women are no more "people," or "persons," or "citizens" in the United States today than they were before they were granted the suffrage.

It is all very well for American satirists to point their scornful pens at the Dominion of Canada. The situation is funny there, we admit. But how much more ridiculous is our own predicament. The pot calling the kettle black seems to us about the only suitable analogy.

Useful Occupations

THE respect in which "women's work" is held by those who sentimentalize over mother and the home is well indicated by the following story which recently appeared in the *Syracuse Star*:

Angelo Vignone, Jr., 17, of Solvay, was told by Judge Barnum in Children's Court to get into some useful occupation within two weeks and leave the family dishwashing and mopping to his sisters.

Disagreement over Angelo brought the parents into court. The couple separated last year. Vignone wants his son to work for him and learn the mason's trade. Mrs. Vignone prefers to keep the boy at home with her.

"She'll make a sissy out of him," Vignone protested. "She lets him wash floors and wipe dishes, while I want to train the boy so he will earn \$1.35 an hour in a few years. The boy is lazy and will loaf as long as his mother will let him do housework."

Judge Barnum adjourned the case, directing the boy to get into some useful occupation.

Now we would not wish to have it inferred that we desire all mothers to train their sons to the mop and dishrag. We do not even wish them so to train their daughters. But we cannot see just why Judge Barnum should advise Angelo to leave the dishwashing and mopping to his sisters, since apparently he does not regard these avocations as "useful."

Is not perhaps the opposition to Equal Rights on the part of certain gentlemen based on the fear that their sex might become contaminated with the mop and the dishrag if sister were to be emancipated?

Inter-American Women's Headquarters to be Opened

HHEADQUARTERS of the Inter-American Commission of Women will be opened at the Pan-American Union in Washington soon.

Doris Stevens, who is chairman of the Committee on International Action of the National Woman's Party and likewise chairman of this women's commission created by the Pan-American Conference in Havana, was in Washington last week arranging plans for the opening of the headquarters and for the work of the commission.

While in Washington she conferred with Dr. Leo S. Rowe, director-general of the Pan-American Union; Isabel K. Macdermott, editor of the *Pan-American Bulletin*; with Dr. James Brown Scott, director of the Carnegie Endowment, and with Richard W. Flournoy, Jr., reporter of the Harvard Research Committee on Nationality.

Miss Stevens indicated that nationality is one of the subjects which will come before the Inter-American Commission as soon as it meets.

"The subject of nationality is on the agenda of the proposed world conference on the codification of international law to meet next year at the Hague," Miss Stevens said. "Women all over the world are deeply concerned as to how international law shall be codified on this subject. This will be the first time that women appointed by governments to improve their own status will have an opportunity to present their authoritative opinions to men jurists on this subject."

"The Inter-American Commission of Women hopes to co-operate with the various jurists now drafting proposals on the nationality of women to be presented at the Hague. How splendid it would be

if the men and the women of this Western Hemisphere would go to the world conference with a proposal agreed to by both men and women. The Inter-American Commission of Women, as soon as it has agreed upon a draft, will present it for approval to the women of this hemisphere and then to the men jurists."

In addition to the chairman, who is the member for the United States, the other women already appointed as members of the commission are Dr. Elvira A. Lopez de Nelson, member for the Argentine; Mrs. Charles Dube, member from Haiti, and Elena Ospina de Ospina, member for Colombia.

Chiefs of mission for Venezuela, Panama and Salvador are expected to name their members soon. A preliminary conference of the seven commissioners will then be held.

The Open Door Council Replies

IN an article entitled "An English View," appearing in the February 17, 1928, issue of the *Weekly News*, published by the New York League of Women Voters, Nelle Swartz, head of the Bureau of Women in Industry of the New York State Labor Department, summarizes a statement, "Protective Legislation and Women Workers," made a few months ago by the Standing Joint Committee of Women's Industrial Organizations of Great Britain, and published under the auspices of the British Labor Party.

Miss Swartz contends that this committee speaks for the organized working women of that country, and the committee itself so claims, at the same time adding that it is true that the views of these women are the same as the views of the men, who in some cases form the majority of the organizations represented.

Miss Swartz goes on to say in her summary:

"The report considers three aspects of the problem:

"1. Provisions that would be good for men as well as women, but which can be obtained for women and not for men at the present time. Legislation dealing with hours of work comes under this head. 'We prefer to take what regulation we can get rather than to delay it until men can secure it also,' says the committee.

"2. Regulations that are more needed for women than for men because women are less fitted than men to run certain dangers and especially to endure heavy muscular work. Prohibition of work in mines, prohibition of night work, with lead or other poisonous substances to which

women are particularly susceptible are under this heading.

"3. Regulations which are necessary to women because of their functions as mothers. Prohibition of work for a specific time before and after child-birth is included in this heading.

"Our position," says the committee, "is that we take whatever we can get under all three heads and if we can't get it for men or it is not necessary for them, we endeavor to secure it for women alone."

"The committee in no uncertain terms states that it is in favor of all legislation which improves conditions of employment for the worker and is especially concerned in securing this for the worst paid and least organized. Unfortunately, women belong to this group.

"The committee asks the Feminists in England as to whether they really want employers to sweat the workers in the name of equality." (This last is incorrect. The report actually reads: 'Would the Feminist organizations regard it as 'restrictive?' Would they prefer that the employer maintain his right to sweat his workers in the name of equality?')

THE Open Door Council of Great Britain, formed in 1926 to work nationally and internationally for industrial equality for women, has recently issued a pamphlet in reply to the statement of the Standing Joint Committee of Women's Industrial Organizations. The reply is signed by Elizabeth Abbott, chairman of the Council. It takes up first the question of whether or not women workers are in favor of industrial equality.

Those of us in the United States who

have observed the manœuvres of the leaders of men's labor organizations and the women's unions under their control to have it appear that all of the women members of labor organizations are against industrial equality for women, are a bit sceptical when we read that "organizations" or "committees" speak for the organized women in any country. We have met too many trades union women, and men too, in this country who do not agree with their leaders on the question of special labor laws for women.

BUT let us see what the Open Door Council has to say on the subject. No attempt can be made here to print the entire reply, which is lengthy and answers, point by point, each claim of the Standing Joint Committee, but we will consider extracts from that part of it which deals with the points set forth in Miss Swartz's article.

In its reply to the statement that the Standing Joint Committee speaks for organized working women, the Open Door Council says:

"The policy of the so-called 'protection' of the woman factory worker, namely the denial to her by law of the status of an adult, began in the early forties of last century, and was supported by the old exclusive Craft Unions and the political parties of the day. It is thus our inheritance from a time when every woman was voteless.

"It has become the official policy of the Labor Party today as an inheritance from the Trade Union section of its ranks; the section which had the strongest financial power to back Parliamentary candidates

in the early days of the party's formation. These unions had in turn inherited the policy from the old unions. This traditional policy has been accepted; *it has never been critically discussed.*

"With regard to the present position, our immediate experience in direct contact with groups of organized women in the Labor, Co-operative and Trade Union movements is that the value and meaning of equal status in industrial legislation and organization has seldom been fully put before them. There are, however, within such groups a number of individuals who do realize the value of equal status for the industrial wage-earner.

"It is essential to remember that 'protection' in the form of restrictions for women was first advocated by men who desired to benefit by the shortened hours of children, young persons and women in textile factories; and that the demand was coupled with an attempt to secure legislative restrictions on the numbers of women employed in mills and the forbidding of such work to all married women.

"When originally organized in defense of their own interests in the Women's Trade Union League, working women consistently opposed legislative sex restrictions. Since women became organized in the political Labor movement — though such organization by no means covers working women—their views have inevitably been colored by the traditional policy of that movement.

"A majority vote, however, from every section of women mentioned would no more invalidate the claim for equal industrial status than would an anti-suffrage referendum of women have invalidated the claim for equal political rights.

"To postpone the demand for equal status for any subject, class, caste or sex, until the majority of those immediately concerned demanded it would be to postpone every equality demand forever. The majority of slaves did not demand their freedom. The majority of women did not demand equal education. The majority of women did not demand a married woman's rights to her own earnings. The majority of women did not demand equal suffrage."

IN answer to Point 1 in Miss Swartz's summary, the reply says:

"We disagree that regulations regarding hours of work cannot be obtained for men as well as for women at the present time

"What are the facts? *By agreements* men have obtained in practice the 48-hour week in some 92 per cent. of the organized industries of the country. *By law, i. e.,* by 'protective' legislation—women are permitted to work a 60-hour week; all political parties have declared themselves in favor of the Washington Hours Convention of 1919 of a 48-hour week in indus-

try; what has prevented those who 'prefer to take what regulations they can get' from pressing for the inclusion of a provision for a 48-hour week and statutory payment for overtime for both sexes, in every factories bill brought forward? The Standing Joint Committee states: 'We prefer to take what regulation we can get rather than to delay it.' Nothing can be got without asking; and the failure during the past years, when several draft factories bills have been introduced to make an insistent demand for the incorporation of the terms of the Washington Hours Convention in every such bill is a failure to 'deal with facts as they are.'"

IN answer to Point 2:

"Equipment for dangerous and heavy work is a matter of training and selecting the individual—whether man or woman. Neither men nor women en masse are 'fitted' for dangerous work. As to specially heavy muscular work we believe that in this country a larger proportion of men are able to do such work. Many women, however, are able to do heavy muscular work, and this ability depends upon training and upon getting plenty of fresh air, exercise and food from childhood onwards.

"It is unfortunate that the statement of the Standing Joint Committee should give the impression that women are suffering injury, and more injury than men, from weight-lifting. *This is emphatically not the case.*

"The report of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board (No. 44) shows that no woman is suffering injury or even discomfort in the heavy trades involving weight-lifting; that these women are among the healthiest in the industrial community; that they are healthier than many women in the sedentary trades, and healthier than the unemployed woman who is at home through unemployment; and that these trades attract and develop women of sturdy physical type. This result obtains under a system of freedom of choice and the exercise of skill and common sense by responsible adult women.

"We claim the right of the adult woman in mining districts to decide for herself what manner of work she feels fitted to undertake, even if her choice should lead her into the mine.

"We are not opposed to the making of regulations for the handling of dangerous substances. This is protection where, as in the case of phosphorus, the regulation applies equally to both sexes. But it is exploitation of women where, as in the case of lead and lead paint, certain regulations restrict women only.

"We have no doubt that the 'unregulated night work' referred to would be detrimental to the majority of those engaging in it, whether men or women. The tendency, however, in industry is to dispense with it or limit it. When it

is in operation, we consider that an adult woman should have the same right as a man to engage in it if she chooses. It is for her, not for others, to decide whether or not her earnings in such work compensate for the disturbance of normal routine. It is for her, not for others, to decide whether or not her private arrangements are better served by night-work than by day work. The disturbance of the home life of married women by the night work or shift work of husbands or sons is as serious, though without any economic compensation to the woman.

"A woman both during and after pregnancy should have the right—and no legislation or regulations should deprive her of it—to decide for herself whether or not she shall engage in paid work. Once that right is taken away and a woman is no longer a free agent, she is, at the time of her greatest need, entirely at the mercy of the State which has thus curtailed her right to earn money. Work is denied to her.

"We are opposed to that part of the Washington Maternity Convention which forbids a woman to decide for herself whether or not she shall engage in paid work. We would not be opposed to a provision which gave her maintenance, *subject to her deciding to give up her paid work.* Such a provision would recognize a woman's inherent human right to decide for herself.

"We are not opposed to trade boards in as far as they have raised the actual weekly or hourly wage of the sweated workers, men and women.

"We are not opposed to trade boards fixing minimum hours since these are equal for men and women.

"But in as far as trade boards have by law standardized a lower rate of pay for women they have legalized and standardized injustice.

"We would prefer that the employer should lose his present legal right to sweat his women workers by paying them often half the rates of men workers."

SUMMING up, the Open Door Council points out that:

"Such recognition of her economic worth as woman has attained she has gained not through 'protection' but in spite of it. The cause of the improvement is to be sought rather in the generally improved conditions of industry; still more in the awakening of women themselves to a knowledge of their latent power and value, due in turn to better education, the married woman's right to her earnings, and the franchise. These are the fruits of the Feminist movement, which stands uncompromisingly for the raising of woman from her position of inferiority to the position of equal status. It is neither progress nor protection to keep women on the pretext of making them more com-

fortable—in a standardized position of inferiority. Yet that sums up the 'protective' policy with regard to the indus-

trial woman worker. * * * Is it too much to ask that this old policy of 'protection' should be abandoned as outworn and that

a new policy based on things as they are and framed to secure things as they should be, shall be adopted in its stead?"

Press Comment

Equal Justice

*United Press,
Washington, D. C.,
May 9, 1928.*

MILITANT Feminists of the National Woman's Party here today greeted the pronouncement of Supreme Court Justice Stephen Callaghan, in the Knapp trial at Albany, that women "cannot share the privileges extended to men and be relieved of the responsibilities."

"This is what we've been hammering away at for six years," said Miss Mabel Vernon, Wilmington, Delaware, secretary of the organization which is promoting a proposed amendment which would remove all legal discriminations both for and against women. "It's really a victory from an unexpected quarter."

"If we can get this same idea over when a piece of so-called 'protective legislation for women' is proposed to Congress or a Legislature, we will be making real headway."

She said her organization's stand for Equal Rights between the sexes also included "equal responsibilities," with just as much emphasis. "Protective" labor laws, she said, should "protect" men as well as women from long hours, night work and other hazards.

"Women on trial have a right to justice, but no right to chivalry, from the jury, no more than a man on trial has," Miss Vernon said. She applauded Justice Callaghan's admonition that "a juror may not be chivalrous at the expense of violating his oath."

A Feminist Victory

*Herald-Tribune,
New York,
May 2, 1928.*

THE discovery that waitresses have been paying \$10 a week for their jobs is surprising only because it reveals how rapidly women are attaining full equality with men. As far back as the days of the Astor House, Delmonico's and Martin's waiters bought their jobs and the restaurant proprietor paid them nothing. But in those days the 10 per cent. tip had been established in high-priced restaurants, and a waiter who had built up a trade could often afford to pay the wages of his bus boys besides paying for his own place. One of the oldtimers at the Hotel Astor oyster bar retired ten or fifteen years ago with a very comfortable fortune. But it is said that some of his tips were stock tips, given him by old and affluent customers.

For some reason or other the eating

public for a long time considered that a five-cent tip was enough for a waitress. Invariably less change was left for her than was left for a man, probably because she had less capacity for registering contempt when she gathered up the nickels and dimes. But apparently she has lately come into her own. Although most restaurants give wages to their waitresses, there are a few in the heart of New York where the opportunities are so great that the employees are glad to pay for the privilege of serving generous customers.

Americans were first appalled by the tipping system, which was imported from Europe. But they have become accustomed to it now and it would be difficult to prevent them from tipping. The only hope of putting the gratuity industry on a satisfactory basis is the introduction of another European custom, which is to charge 10 per cent. extra for service, the 10 per cent. being distributed among the waiters. This practice has already been established by some restaurants in New York and is likely in time to spread. In the meantime, if customers will tip, those who serve them will expect to be tipped and will, if necessary, buy jobs in places where tipping is most prevalent and liberal. Reformers can and do accomplish many things, but they never can successfully prevent the people of any nation from taking money when it is offered to them.

"Antis" Still Fight Suffrage

*Evening Bulletin
Philadelphia, Pa.,
April 27, 1928.*

REVIVAL of all the arguments for and against woman suffrage is so anachronistic that one who listened to them in a hearing before a Senate committee on Wednesday might be pardoned for thinking that he had reversed Rip Van Winkle's experience, and gone back twenty years in a dream.

There were fair proponents of votes for women in Porto Rico, as proposed in identical bills by Senator Bingham of Connecticut, and Representative Kiess of Pennsylvania. Ranged against them were volatile and energetic "antis," who dubbed the National Woman's Party "a militant Feminist organization," aiming to put rigid equality of the sexes above everything else. It was an interesting occasion in showing that the old issues between the rival sisterhoods have been kept alive, and that the "antis" have a magazine to promulgate their "no surrender" views.

Probably these ladies of the opposition are more concerned about fighting the extremists of the National Woman's Party than about contesting the accomplished fact of the Nineteenth Amendment. They want their sex to be affiliated with the great political parties and to retain the privileges conferred on women by protective laws. To the contrary, the National Woman's Party has made a shibboleth of "equality," which would insist on the physical as well as the political equality of the sexes and abrogate all the hard-won legislative protection that is given to women in business industry.

The direct bearing of all this on giving the franchise to the women of Porto Rico is not very clear, although renewal of the controversy is amusing.

"The Sex War"

*Phila. Ledger,
April 14, 1928.*

THE long-expected "sex war" now looms clearly upon the British horizon. The "revolt of the male" is hailed as the only possible or logical result of giving English women the vote upon terms equal to those of the men. The women now have an absolute majority in the country of more than 2,000,000. The conclusion-jumpers naturally believe that the women will from now on formulate and decide upon national policy. To help save the men from the wrath to come, the "Fifty-Fifty League" has been formed. The League's manifesto calls for military conscription for women, withdrawal of all sex privileges, concessions and immunities and all that sort of thing. The object is to force the women to face the "logical consequences" of their victory. But the mischief of it is that the "logical consequences" should be very different. Now that men are in the minority, how can they hope to force women to give up what they have? Men are on the short end. They will have to do as they are told even harder and more promptly than ever. This is the real logic of it.

Women as Diplomats

*New York World,
May 1, 1928.*

RECENT appointments of American women to responsible positions in the Diplomatic and Consular Services draw attention to the way woman is working into the Government. One was appointed by the recent Pan-American Conference to service on its commission for framing an international code of women's rights in all the republics of the

three Americas. Another represents this country as a Consul in Argentina, another is Consular Agent at Shanghai.

This recognition of women in foreign service is not peculiar to the United States. Bulgaria, France and Russia place women in the diplomatic field. Russia has had women as Ministers to Sweden and Mexico, and they seem to

have managed matters as well as men would have done.

England does not place women in its Consulates and its diplomatic berths, and two women in Parliament demand to know why. These parliamentary Rosa Dartles — "I only want to know, you know"—are Ellen Wilkinson and Nancy Astor. They recently heckled Secretary

Chamberlain of the Department of Foreign Affairs after a fashion that taxed his diplomatic ability to answer. He declared that present circumstances make appointment to foreign posts a problem of expediency, not a question of sex.

The harassed diplomat slipped away from the women dexterously, leaving them in the dark as to the future.

News from the Field

Condemnation Suit Begins

HEARINGS before the condemnation commissioners of the District of Columbia regarding the taking of National Woman's Party Headquarters by the Government for the United States Supreme Court site began on May 16 in the District of Columbia Court House.

Only a few days will probably be necessary for the Woman's Party to present its claims.

Burnita Shelton Matthews is the attorney for the Woman's Party, and Maud Younger is chairman of the condemnation committee.

It will still be some months, however, before the site will be actually taken over by the Government, it is believed, in view of the length of time necessary for completing the condemnation of all the property sought by the Government. The claims of the property holders have not yet been completed, and the Government will have to present its case after all these are completed.

Doris Stevens Addresses Maine Branch

A MEETING of the Maine Branch of the National Woman's Party, in honor of Doris Stevens, was held recently in Portland, Maine, and was a great success. It was held in the parlors of the Elks' Club and thirty-two people sat down at the table. Many others came in for the speaking and they formed an unusually representative group of key people. They were all deeply interested in the proceedings and Miss Stevens gave a beautiful talk to them. Everybody was charmed with her. Miss Gail Laughlin made one of her thrilling speeches during the question hour, in which she paid tribute to Miss Stevens and the group of four women who went to Cuba for the conference and surmounted almost insurmountable obstacles in winning the resolution for a permanent Pan-American Women's Committee.

Mrs. Whitehouse, the State chairman, presided at the meeting. Among the guests were:

Mrs. George H. Weeks, wife of a former South Portland Mayor; Mrs. Arthur G. Spear, former president Woman's Literary Union; Mrs. William H. Looney; Mrs. J. T. Skolfield, State president Federation

of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Ernest H. Gruening, wife of the editor of the *Evening News*; Mrs. Allan P. Stevens, member of the City Council; Mrs. John F. Thompson, former president of the State Y. W. C. A. and member of the American Board of Foreign Missions; Mrs. John Howard Hill, one of the forward-looking women of Portland, head of the Red Cross during the war; Mrs. Hilda L. Ives, ordained minister in the Congregational Church; Miss Mary Penney, former State president of the Business and Professional Women's Club; Mrs. Carroll B. Skillin, Mrs. Fred N. Hooper; Mrs. Phyllis Thaxter and Mrs. Pascia Warren, representatives of the Junior League; Mrs. Madeleine Louis Freeman, Mrs. Louise Larrabee, Mrs. F. A. Woods; Mrs. Emma Moseley, society editor of the Portland *Evening News* and always a staunch friend of the Woman's Party; Miss Maude Neale, Mrs. Barbara Freeman, Mrs. Robert E. Heim, Mrs. George T. Dealey, and Miss Ella Woodman.

Recent Visitors at Headquarters

MR. AND MRS. MAX ROTTER of Milwaukee, Mrs. J. W. Kinsey of California, and Mrs. Arthur Bye of Swarthmore, Pa., with her son and daughter, are staying at Headquarters.

Mme. Camille Drevet, member of the International Advisory Council, spent several days at Headquarters while attending the annual meeting of the American section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Mme. Drevet, who is on her way home after spending three months in China as leader of a delegation of women sent to China by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, works with the Feminist group in France. Until she started on her trip around the world, she edited *The Woman's Voice*. She lectures and writes for newspapers in France and in other countries.

Our Crusaders

IN connection with the work of the National Woman's Party in bringing the attention of the Pan-American Conference to the status of women, which resulted in the creation of the commission of women of the Americas to study the status of

women in the Western Hemisphere with a view toward improving it, the following letter received from Lavinia Dock, member of the Woman's Party, is interesting:

Fayetteville, Pa., May 7, 1928.

"Dear Miss Vernon:

"I think the prowess of the Party just the most glorious thing and Doris Stevens and her cohorts' achievement in Havana is almost incredible.

"I consider that our Party members are classed with all the truly great crusaders, and I don't understand why every one doesn't see it.

"With love and admiration for you all.

"Ever yours,

"(Signed) LAVINIA DOCK."

Panamanian Party Adopts Plank for Women

THE National Liberal Party of Panama has adopted in its platform a plank for "increasing the means of development of women," according to an *Associated Press* dispatch. The dispatch does not explain what this means.

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